DAN E ARNETT CHIEF OF STAFF

Phone: (803) 737-0800 Fax: (803) 737-0801

November 14, 2005

Mr. Charles L.A. Terreni Chief Clerk/Administrator South Carolina Public Service Commission 101 Executive Center Dr., Suite 100 Columbia, SC 29210

Re: Request for Extended Area Service in York County

PSC Docket No.: 2005-241-W/S

Dear Mr. Terreni:

For your docket, please find enclosed a copy of the Office of Regulatory Staff's Motion for a Continuance and Motion to Compel. By copy of this letter, I am serving all affected parties. Also, if you would please date stamp the extra copy enclosed and return it to me via our courier.

Please let me know if you have any questions

Sincerely

Benjamin P. Mustian

Enclosures

cc: MCI Communications Services, Inc.

ITC^DeltaCom Communications, Inc.

AT&T Communications of the Southern States, LLC

Sprint Communications Company, L.P.

Qwest Communications Corporation

Global Crossing Telecommunications, Inc.

Excel Telecommunications, Inc.

MCI WorldCom Communications, Inc.

South Carolina Network, Inc. Business Telecom, Inc. One Call Communications, Inc. Alltel Communications, Inc. Wiltel Communications, LLC Talk America, Inc.

BEFORE

THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NO. 2005-241-C

IN RE:	Request for Extended))	
	Area Service in)	Certificate of Service
	York County)	

This is to certify that I, Benjamin P. Mustian, an employee with the Office of Regulatory Staff, have this date served one (1) copy of the Office of Regulatory Staff's Motion for a Continuance and Motion to Compel in the above-referenced matter to the person(s) named below by causing said copy to be deposited in the United States Postal Service, first class postage prepaid and affixed thereto, and addressed as shown below:

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QWEST COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION

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SPRINT COMMUNICATIONS, LP Martin H. Bocock Director/Gov't & Regulatory Affairs 1122 lady Street, Ste. 1050 Columbia, SC 29201

> TALK AMERICA, INC. Francie McComb VP Regulatory Affairs 6805 Route 202 New Hope, PA 18938

WILTEL COMMUNICATIONS, LLC

Adam Kupetsky
Director/Regulatory Affairs
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Tulsa, OK 74103

Benjamin P. Mustian

November 14, 2005 Columbia, South Carolina

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NO. 2005-241-C

IN RE:

Request for Extended)

MOTION FOR A CONTINUANCE

Area Service in)

York County

AND MOTION TO COMPEL

Pursuant to the Rules and Regulations of the Public Service Commission of South Carolina ("the Commission") and the South Carolina Rules of Civil Procedure, the Office of Regulatory Staff ("ORS") respectfully submits this Motion for a Continuance and an Order compelling certain telecommunication providers to respond to requests for information. In support of said Motions, ORS would show the following:

- 1. On August 15, 2005, ORS filed with the Commission a letter from Representative Herb Kirsh of York County regarding the application of Comporium Communications for alternative regulation and rate adjustments in Docket No. 2005-203-C. Specifically, the correspondence recommended that Comporium be required to provide countywide toll-free calling should this application be granted.
- 2. On August 31, 2005, the Commission issued Order No. 2005-463, whereby it stated that the "gravamen of Representative Kirsh's letter and request is that Extended Area Service (EAS) be established in York County, so that countywide toll-free calling may be accomplished." In order to determine whether such service should be established, the Commission requested ORS "to study the costs of such a proposal and available alternatives"

and to "provide a recommendation to the Commission concerning the disposition of this matter within sixty days of its receipt" of the Order.

3. On September 7, 2005, ORS requested information from Comporium and BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc., ("BellSouth") regarding EAS in York County including information concerning various calling options available to York County consumers as well as information regarding the financial impact to Comporium and BellSouth if mandated to implement county wide local calling.

On October 7, 2005, Comporium responded to ORS. After reviewing Comporium's response and after discussions with Comporium and BellSouth, ORS recognized that additional information was necessary for the study and this information could only be obtained from interexchange and competitive local exchange carriers operating in York County.

On October 10, 2005, ORS sent the attached letter, identified as Exhibit A, to telecommunications carriers operating in York County. This letter requested information concerning the impact of the EAS proposal to the companies' operations in York County. Specifically, ORS requested information regarding revenue losses which result from the removal of usage sensitive rates and optional local calling plans, costs associated with upgrades to networks, and communities of interest. ORS requested that this information be filed with ORS no later than October 21, 2005.

- 4. On November 1, 2005, ORS submitted a Motion for a Fourteen Day Extension in filing its report with the Commission. ORS stated that it had received additional information from certain telecommunications carriers and wished to include that information in its report.
- 5. Based upon the date of the receipt of the Order, ORS is currently required to submit its response to the Commission on November 14, 2005.

- 6. As of November 14, 2005, the following interexchange carriers in the York County area have failed to respond to ORS's requests for information:
 - 1) MCI Communications Services, Inc.
 - 2) ITC^DeltaCom Communications, Inc.
 - 3) AT&T Communications of the Southern States, LLC
 - 4) Sprint Communications Company, L.P.
 - 5) Qwest Communications Corporation
 - 6) Global Crossing Telecommunications, Inc.
 - 7) Excel Telecommunications, Inc.
 - 8) MCI WorldCom Communications, Inc.
 - 9) South Carolina Network, Inc.
 - 10) Business Telecom, Inc.
 - 11) One Call Communications, Inc.
 - 12) Alltel Communications, Inc.
 - 13) Wiltel Communications, LLC
 - 14) Talk America, Inc.
- 7. The companies listed in Paragraph 6 have neither filed written objections with the Commission nor requested an extension of time. As of the date of this filing, twenty-four (24) days after the required deadline, ORS has not received any response to the submitted request for information from the companies listed in Paragraph 6 and has reason to believe that no responses are forthcoming.
- 8. As ORS has not been provided the necessary information, it is unable to submit a constructive report to the Commission and will continue to be unable to do so until such information is provided.

WHEREFORE, ORS requests the following relief:

A. That the Commission grant ORS's Motion for a Continuance and extend the time required to file its report an additional thirty (30) days;

B. That the Commission grant ORS's Motion for to Compel and issue an order compelling the telecommunications carriers listed in Paragraph 6 of this Motion to provide answers to the request for information within fourteen days;

C. That the Commission order any other appropriate action the Commission may deem necessary.

OFFICE OF REGULATORY STAFF

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Columbia, South Carolina November 14, 2005